expected to accelerate the process of Rural Industrialisation and to make the KVI sector commercially viable.

Communication Centres' Offices in Manipur

*170. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Communication Centres' offices in Manipur;

(b) whether there is any proposal for opening of more communication offices in the State;

(c) the reasons for delay in opening of telephone offices at Wangoi although its building has been completed; and

(d) by when the above office would be opened?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) There are 35 telephone exchanges in Manipur State providing communication facilities for voice traffic. It is proposed to open 12 more such telephone exchanges.

The Wangoi telephone exchange was burnt on three occcasions by militants. The matter has been taken up with the State Government and the exchange will be re-commissioned once adequate security is provided by the State Government authorities.

Khurdha-Bolangir Super Highway

*171. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to construct Khurdha-Bolangir super highway in Orissa with World Bank aid has been pending with Government since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in getting World Bank Funds for the Super Highway Project; and

(c) the steps taken for early consideration of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) No Sir. There is no such proposal pending with Government of India. The question is related to World Bank aid for Orissa State Highways Project. The State Highways come within the preview of the respective State

Governments. Khurda-Daspalla-Boudh-Bolangir section of State Highways Nos. 1 & 14 was never proposed to be a super highways. However as per information obtained from Govt. of Orissa, improvement of this road by widening, strengthening and maintenance was proposed to be a part of Orissa State Road Project with World Bank assistance. There has been no commitment from the World Bank for funding of this project.

(c) The Government of Orissa has now informed us that they have decided to take up the project under Central Road Fund and Western Orissa Development Council with equal shares.

Cellular Mobile Service of BSNL

*172. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all formalities for procurement and setting-up of the Cellular Mobile services by BSNL as the licensed third operator was completed by August, September, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the purchase orders should have been issued by now;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay and by when the same would be issued;

(d) whether the delay suffered so far is a result of any extraneous pressure, possibly from the entities who would be benefited from such a dealy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The finalisation of BSNL tender for setting up the Cellular Mobile service is under process.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Pending projects

†*173. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got completed a number of projects out of those which were under implementation during March, 1998;

(b) if so, the number of projects which have been completed during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.